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1 DEC 1970

Brigadier General Donald D. Blackburn
Deputy Director for Counterinsurgency
and Special Activities/SACSA
The Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear General Blackburn:

During the past year we have undertaken an extensive evaluation of CIA's orientation and training programs with a view to reducing duplication and ensuring that those programs meet current needs. This review has led us to the conclusion that Project USEFUL no longer fulfills the function for which it was designed some 16 years ago. In addition, it duplicates the JCS/DIA program and the numerous orientation, briefing and liaison channels that we have developed since the mid-1950's. We therefore have decided to discontinue Project USEFUL and increase the number of participants in the JCS/DIA program to accommodate the JCS/SACSA nominees who would otherwise have attended Project USEFUL.

The JCS/DIA program is of course only one of many orientation and briefing mechanisms established to meet our mutual needs. Your Project HELPFUL fills this role. Agency representatives and their counterparts at the various military commands and schools in the United States and abroad perform this function. The many formal and informal liaison channels between Agency headquarters and DOD commands cover specific and general interests as do our liaison arrangements at field stations. During FY 1970 our Office of Training participated in training some 5,000 military officers at facilities ranging from the Defense Intelligence School and Fort Holabird through the various senior military colleges and Military Assistance schools.

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In sum, the abundance of effective channels we have for coordination and cooperation appear to us to make USEFUL no longer necessary. In addition to increasing the number of openings in the JCS/DIA program we shall seek to improve the use of existing orientation and liaison channels by stressing these relationships in that program and seeking new ways to meet any new needs for exchanges.

Sincerely,

487 L. K. White

L. K. White
Executive Director

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ORIGINATOR

HUGH T. CUNNINGHAM
Director of Training

3 December 70

Date

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CONCUR:

R. L. Bannerman
Deputy Director for Support

9 DEC 1970

Date

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